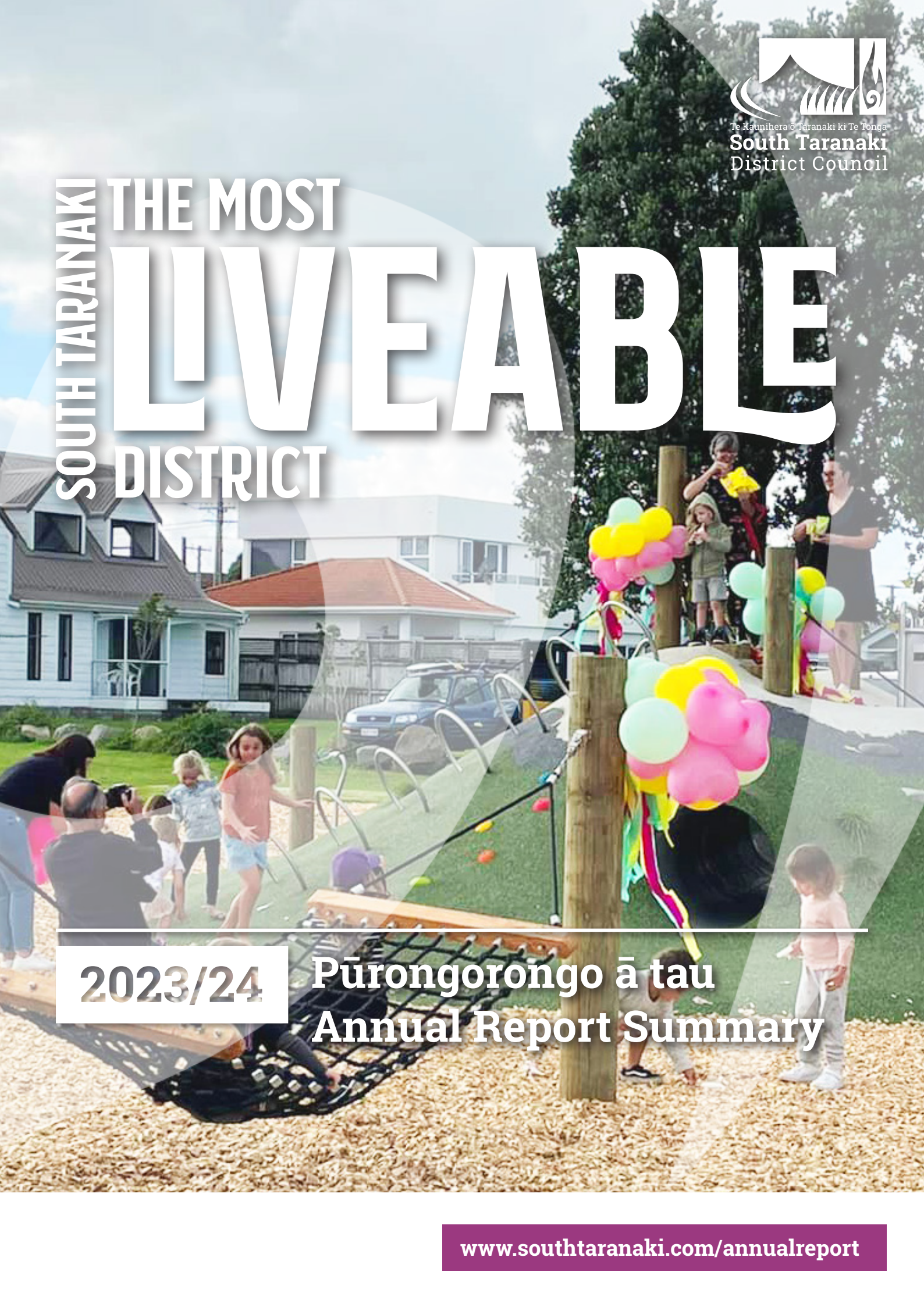


SOUTH TARANAKI

**THE MOST
LIVEABLE
DISTRICT**

LIVEABLE



2023/24

**Pūrongo ā tau
Annual Report Summary**

Introduction

Mihi

Ko Taranaki kei runga.
Ko Aotea, ko kurahaupo e urunga mai ki uta.
Ko Turi, ko Ruatea ngā tūpuna,
Tihei mauri tū ki runga!

Mai I Ōkurukuru ki Rāwa o Turi,
Rāwa o Turi ki Waingōngoro
Waingōngoro ki Whenuakura,
Whenuakura ki Waitōtara.

Ko wai tērā, ko Taranaki ki te Tonga.

E ngā tini wairua, kua whetūrangihia, koutou e korowaitia ana te tauheke rā, ko Pukehaupapa, ko Pukeonaki, e moe. Haere I raro I te kahu kōrako ki Tua whakarere. Ki te kāinga o tāua te tangata.

Hoki atu rā koutou ki Hawaiki nui, Hawaiki roa, Hawaiki pāmamao.

Ki a tātou ngā uri o Tiki, ki ngā kanohi kitea. Tātou mā e kawea nei ngā kete matauranga o te ao tūroa, o te ao hurihuri. Tihei mouri ora.

Ko te kaupapa e anga atu nei, ko te Hōtaka o te wā, hei tirohanga ki mua mā tātou ki to Tonga. Kia whai nei I ngā wawata kia pākari ai te rohe.

Kāti rā, ki a koutou, ki a tātou, rire, rire Hau Pai marire!

*So stands Taranaki above
Aotea and Kurahaupo are anchored ashore,
Turi and Ruatea are our ancestors.
So, we share the breath of life!*

*From Ōkurukuru to Rāwa o Turi,
From Rāwa o Turi to Waingōngoro River,
From the Waingōngoro to the Whenuakura River,
From the Whenuakura to the Waitōtara River.*

Who are we, South Taranaki.

*To those spirits, who have passed beyond, you who cloak our mountain,
Pukehaupapa, Pukeonake, rest in peace. Go beyond the veil with the
protection of peace. To the ancestral home of us, the people.
Return to Hawaiki nui, Hawaiki roa and Hawaiki pāmamao.*

*To those of us who remain, the descendants of Tiki, the living. We, the
bearers of the baskets of knowledge from the past and present.
So, the breath of life.*

*So, the focus for this is the Long Term Plan, to
Look forward for us the people of South Taranaki.
To achieve the hopes and dreams to enhance our region.
In conclusion, to you and us all, Peace flow across us!*



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Introduction

Welcome to the South Taranaki District Council's 2023/24 Annual Report Summary. The purpose of this Summary is to provide an overview of the Council's activities over the last financial year (1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024) and identify any major differences to what the Council set out to do in its 2023/24 Annual Plan.

The Annual Report Summary shows how well the District's assets are being looked after and how well the Council is performing as an organisation. The information in this Summary has been taken from the audited Annual Report which was adopted by the Council on 30 October 2024. The Annual Report Summary does not provide as complete an understanding as the full Annual Report. For more detailed information covering all of the Council's activities please refer to the full Annual Report. Copies of the full Annual Report are available on request (phone 0800 111 323) for a copy to be sent out to you or you can view it on the Council website www.southtaranaki.com.

Where does the Annual Report fit in?

Every council in New Zealand is required to prepare a Long Term Plan (with a ten year timeframe), as well as an Annual Plan and an Annual Report. These three documents form the essential guide to what Council does in any given year. The Long Term Plan and the Annual Plan set out what the Council plans to do, while the Annual Report states what the Council has actually done. The 2023/24 Annual Report reflects progress made in Year 3 of our 2021-2031 Long Term Plan.

Te reo maioha ā te koromatua me te tumu whakahaere

Message from the Mayor and Chief Executive

Welcome to the South Taranaki District Council's Annual Report 2023/24 where we look back on the last financial year (1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024) and report on how we performed against the objectives and priorities we set in our 2023/24 Annual Plan (Year 3 of our 2021-2031 Long Term Plan).

The 2023/24 financial year was another challenging one, characterised by ongoing global geopolitical instability, economic volatility and a sluggish domestic economy. While inflation started to show signs of easing, Local Government inflation (e.g. fuel, bitumen, electricity, construction, interest rates and insurance costs) remained high. However, we anticipate inflation and interest rates to further ease in the next 6-12 months.

The Council finished the year with a \$2,356,000 surplus after unbudgeted adjustments. The main reason for the surplus was higher than expected revenue (mainly from increased subsidies from Waka Kotahi/NZ Transport Agency and South Taranaki Business Park development and financial contributions) and lower than expected direct costs (e.g. we had no roading damage caused by floods). However, due to the global volatility the Council's Long Term Investment Fund made \$2.6 million less than anticipated. The overall results include accounting adjustments relating to a loss on derivative contracts, (\$0.7m), loss on disposal of assets (\$1.2m) and gain on vested assets (\$0.9m).

Despite these challenges, in the 12 months to the end of June 2024 we made solid progress on several projects, and managed to complete \$42 million worth of capital work, making it one of our most successful years of capital expenditure.

Key features/highlights of 2023/24:

Construction of Te Ramanui o Ruapūtahanga, the District's new Library, Arts and isite Information Centre, is around 80% complete. Construction is on track to be completed for its official opening at the end of November 2024.

Good progress was made on Stage 2 of the South Taranaki Business Park, with roading and three waters infrastructure upgrades to Fitzgerald Lane, Little Waihi Road, Kerry Lane and State Highway 3. Land contouring work in preparation for a wastewater pump station, future roading and three waters infrastructure from Fitzgerald Lane to Glover Road was also completed.

The planning, design, and public consultation in support of the town centre revitalisation projects for Waverley, Eltham, Ōpunakē, Pātea and Manaia is well advanced and ongoing. Traffic calming/pedestrian refuge measures, funded by Waka Kotahi/NZTA, have been completed along the main highway in Eltham and Waverley. Planning and design of Ōpunakē's proposed green space was completed as well as a new pump track. Planning and design is well advanced for Stark Park in Eltham and elements including signage and wayfinding have been implemented in Pātea.

The 5km multi-use Loop Track in Pātea was also opened in February marking the culmination of an eight-month project as part of the Council's Pathways Programme.

The 10.4km Nukumarū Station Road extension project (Te Ranganuku Road) was officially opened in March 2024. The \$12.1 million project, two thirds of which was paid for by the Government, represented a major investment in the southernmost part of the District which guarantees security of access for residents and business in the area.

Te reo maioha ā te koromatua me te tumu whakahaere

Message from the Mayor and Chief Executive

The new \$4.4 million Waimate West reservoir was completed in March 2024.

Following extensive public consultation, which saw 777 submissions received, in late November 2023 Councillors voted for a fortnightly urban kerbside waste collection service, with weekly food scraps collection. The decision, which won't be implemented until October 2024, was made as part of adopting the Council's Waste Management and Minimisation Plan.

The year saw the election of a National/Act/New Zealand First coalition government in October 2023. This brought a number of changes in the latter part of 2023 and the first half of 2024, including another change to three waters delivery and Local Government (Electoral Legislation and Māori Wards and Māori Constituencies) Amendment Bill in May 2024. This Bill seeks to reinstate the requirement to hold polls on Māori wards.

According to our annual independent survey, satisfaction with Council services remains high with 88% of residents happy with the overall service the Council provides and 90% believing the Council is moving in the right direction. 96% were satisfied with the facilities provided by the Council. Services and facilities that residents were most satisfied with were the libraries (98% satisfaction), Hāwera Aquatic Centre (98%), the District's sewerage system (97%), the cleanliness and maintenance of recreation centres (97%) and overall waste management (92%). The services that had the lowest satisfaction rates were the condition of roads (58%), Animal Management (74%), value for money (74%), public participation in decision making (76%) and illegal litter dumping (76%).

Although 2023/24 presented a number of challenges, we are pleased to be able to say the Council is financially sound, maintains good levels of community satisfaction and has a clear plan for the District's future.

It is our privilege to present the Council's 2023/24 Annual Report.



Fiona Aitken

Tumu Whakahaere
South Taranaki District Council
Chief Executive



Phil Nixon

Koromatua o Taranaki ki te Tonga
South Taranaki Mayor

Ngā Kaikōwhiri

Elected Members

The South Taranaki District Council is made up of the District Mayor and 13 Councillors. The Mayor is elected at large over the District with the Councillors elected from four General and two Māori Wards. There are four Community Boards; Te Hāwera, Taranaki Coastal, Eltham-Kaponga and Pātea and 16 Community Board members. These positions are all subject to election every three years.

Ō koutou Kaikaunihera

Your Councillors (2022 - 2025 term)

				
Mayor Phil Nixon	Andy Beccard	Mark Bellringer	Racqual Cleaver-Pittams	Celine Filbee
				
Deputy Mayor Robert Northcott	Aarun Langton	Steffy Mackay	Diana Reid	Te Aroha Hohaia
				
Bryan Roach	Brian Rook	Leanne Kuraroa Horo	Tuteri Dal Rangihaeata	

Ō koutou Poari Hapori

Your Community Boards (2022 - 2025 term)

							
							
Eltham-Kaponga Alan Hawkes, Sonya Douds, Karen Cave and Lindsay Maingdonald	Pātea Cheryl Rook, Jacq Dwyer, Owen Savage and Bronwyn Wattus	Taranaki Coastal Sharlee Mareikura, Liz Sinclair, Andy Whitehead and Monica Willson	Te Hāwera Heather Brokenshire, Nikki Watson, Andrew Blanche and Raymond Buckland				

The Council's purpose is to enable democratic local decision-making and action by and on behalf of our communities; and to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of our communities both now and for the future.

The Council groups its activities and services within the Annual Report under the following headings:

- Democracy & Leadership
- Water Supply
- Stormwater
- Wastewater
- Solid Waste
- Roading & Footpaths (includes road safety and pathways)
- Community Facilities (parks and reserves, public spaces, halls, swimming pools, public toilets, holiday parks, cemeteries, pensioner housing, TSB Hub, Hawera Cinema and corporate property)
- Arts & Culture (arts, heritage, libraries)
- District Economy (economic development, tourism and events)
- Community Development
- Environmental Sustainability (planning and environmental policy)
- Regulatory Services (building control, environmental health, licensing – alcohol and gambling, noise control, animal management, regulation monitoring and civil defence and emergency)
- Coastal Structures

Council focused on performance

The performance measures within the Annual Report were adopted by the Council as part of the 2021 -2031 Long Term Plan. We get performance information from a wide variety of sources: Council systems such as the customer requests management system, the finance system, databases for quality tests, satisfaction surveys, and reports from external organisations.

The Council also commissions an independent resident satisfaction survey every year to find out what South Taranaki residents think of our District and the Council's services and facilities. The Survey was conducted by Key Research using a sample of 416 residents 18 years + and representative of the population in terms of age, ward and gender.

A number of the performance measure results summarised in this Summary are based on the results of this satisfaction survey. For a detailed list of all the Council's performance measures please refer to the full Annual Report.

**Note: The Annual Residents' Survey was undertaken in three waves (August and November 2023 and February 2024) and did not cover the entire 2023/24 financial year, however this would not significantly change the outcome of the survey due to fact that this survey covered April 2023 to March 2024, which is a full 12 months.*

The Year in Review

The Council's vision in our 2021–2031 Long Term Plan is to make **South Taranaki the most liveable district**. In Year 3 of that Plan, Council identified a number of key projects and priorities we wanted to undertake to achieve our vision. In this section we report on the progress of those key priorities.

He arotakenga o te tau

The Year in Review



Prosperous South Taranaki

Economic Well-being

A prosperous District with a sustainable economy, innovative businesses and high quality infrastructure.



Prosperous Project/Priority	Progress
<p>South Taranaki Business Park stormwater \$1m, wastewater \$2.47m, water \$400,000 and roading \$3.47m</p>	<p>The next stage of work including roading, three waters, internet and electrical infrastructure upgrades on Fitzgerald Lane, Little Waihi Road and Kerry Lane began in February 2024. Designs for the new wastewater pump station were finished and the procurement process got underway. Land contouring work in preparation for the installation of the wastewater pump station and future roading and three waters infrastructure from Fitzgerald Lane to Glover Road was also completed.</p>
<p>Undertake town centre upgrades in Pātea, Waverley Manaia, Ōpunakē and Eltham.</p>	<p>The planning, design, and public consultation in support of the Town Revitalisation projects is well advanced and ongoing. Capital works in the road reserve, funded by Waka Kotahi / NZTA, has been completed in Eltham and Waverley. Planning and design of the proposed Green Space has been completed for Ōpunakē as well as the pump track. Planning and design is well advanced for Stark Park in Eltham. Elements of Revitalisation including signage and wayfinding has been implemented in Pātea.</p>
<p>Subsidise rates on average by \$6.2 million pa using earnings from the Long-Term Investment Fund (LTIF).</p>	<p>\$6.3m was withdrawn from the LTIF to subsidise rates.</p>
<p>Use Long-Term Investment Fund fluctuation reserves to pay \$4.96m for Te Ramanui o Ruapūtahanga and other Town Centre Developments</p>	<p>Council withdrew \$3.8m from the Long Term Investment Fund to pay for Te Ramanui o Ruapūtahanga and other town centre developments.</p>

He arotakenga o te tau

The Year in Review



Vibrant South Taranaki

Cultural Well-being

A vibrant and creative District that celebrates diversity and has strong relationships with Iwi/Hapū.



Vibrant Project/Priority	Progress
Te Ramanui o Ruapūtahanga, South Taranaki's new Library, Culture and Arts Centre.	Construction work began and is making good progress. Despite some delays due to Cyclone Gabrielle and other unforeseen events, the facility is expected to open in late November 2024.
Ōpunakē Lake and Waiaua Stream bank stabilisation work to commence \$1.04m	Engagement with key stakeholders has occurred including with Iwi, hapū, and consenting authorities to review and discuss a preliminary design report. This project is still ongoing, with no physical works begun yet.
Work with iwi authority Te Korowai o Ngā Ruahine towards a solution for the replacement of the Manaia War Memorial Hall and Manaia Sports Complex	The Council signed a partnership agreement with Te Korowai o Ngāruahine Trust to undertake public engagement and a feasibility study to investigate the viability of establishing a combined multi-purpose, multi-use Iwi and community facility in Manaia. The TOI Foundation funded the feasibility study and the first stage business case has been completed.
Collaborate with Hāwera Memorial Theatre Trust with a one-third contribution for an air conditioning system for the Hāwera Memorial Theatre (total budget estimate \$504,400 – Council contribution \$170,000)	A funding application submitted by the Hāwera Memorial Theatre Trust for funding towards the air conditioning system was declined, so the project has not proceeded any further. The Council's contribution was budgeted to be spread over two financial years. The unspent money in 2023/2024 will be proposed to be carried over to support the Trust with this project if they are successful in 2024/2025.
Start a programme at Waverley Swimming Pool that will include a plant upgrade of \$150,000	This project started towards the end of the 2023/2024 financial year and after the end of the summer swimming season. It was planned to be spread over two financial years.

He arotakenga o te tau

The Year in Review



Vibrant South Taranaki

Cultural Well-being

A vibrant and creative District that celebrates diversity and has strong relationships with Iwi/Hapū.



Vibrant Project/Priority	Progress
Continue to hold community events across the District such as Arts in the Park, Sounds on the Sand, Movies in the Park, Elektra.	17 events were organised and run during the year.
Retaining wall repairs at Lake Rotokare Boat ramp \$210,000	Stakeholder engagement has occurred, with relevant members of the Rotokare Reserve Trust. We have signed an agreement with a consultant to supply detailed design drawings to instal a retaining wall as a suitable and cost-effective solution to the current retaining wall deterioration. We expect these to be completed in the first quarter of the 2024/2025 financial year.

He arotakenga o te tau

The Year in Review



Sustainable South Taranaki

Environmental Well-being

A sustainable District that manages its resources in a way that preserves the environment for future generations.



Sustainable Project/Priority	Progress
<p>Implement our Environment and Sustainability Strategy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Develop an energy and carbon reduction plan and climate change risk assessment Develop a District-wide climate change adaptation plan and support climate change research relevant to the District Reduce waste going to landfill by 5% by 2023 Review and renew our 2018 Waste Management and Minimisation Plan Progress development of a regional organic waste facility or facilities Undertake biodiversity restoration and protection work in Council parks and reserves Develop a District-wide business and construction waste improvement programme Reforestation project – utilising Government’s Better off Funding 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> To inform the design of a decarbonisation roadmap, the Council needed to establish what their energy use trend, and carbon footprint is. This has been completed through the annual carbon emissions reports and an energy audit conducted in 2022. The Climate Change Risk Assessment details will inform prioritisation of risk elements. The high priority risk elements will undergo adaptation plans that will inform adaptation pathways. A modelling exercise will be done to establish the key hazard areas based on climate projections and their anticipated outcomes. Multiple public waste minimisation events have been held in the last year and changes to the kerbside collection will be rolled out in October 2024 to promote more recycling. The Waste Management and Minimisation Plan was reviewed and adopted by the Council in 2023. In 2023 an expression of interest was sent out to the waste industry. Of the applicants, a shortlist has been developed, these 4 service providers have been invited to respond to a Request for Proposal process. Through the One Billion Trees and Trees that Count funding programs, 8.75 hectares have been planted: 16 000 trees, in Council parks and reserves. Business and Construction waste improvement activities have been included in the 2023 review of the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan. Due to late recruitment no planting has been done through the Better Off Funding.

He arotakenga o te tau

The Year in Review



Sustainable South Taranaki

Environmental Well-being

A sustainable District that manages its resources in a way that preserves the environment for future generations.



Sustainable Project/Priority	Progress
Maintain Pātea Moles	Stage 1 of the remedial work to the western mole was completed. Stage 2 (eastern mole) has been deferred pending further advice from the Council's Assets Team.
Stabilise the riverbank bordering the Ōpunakē Transfer Station \$1.04m	The bank along the Ōpunakē transfer station is eroding. We are awaiting results from Iwi consultation to determine a way forward.

He arotakenga o te tau

The Year in Review



Together South Taranaki

Social Well-being

A District with healthy, safe, resilient, informed and connected people.



Together Project/Priority	Progress
Continue water treatment enhancement and water pressure improvements in Pātea \$1.5m.	The Pātea water treatment plant is undergoing a trial to determine if a more economic, biologically focused approach to treating the water is viable. Performance to date has been better than expected. The plant is currently being trialled to perform at optimum levels to
Spend an average of \$39 million pa on the road network	The actual total spend on the roading network was \$36.9m, with \$21.2m on maintenance and \$15.7m on renewals. Maintenance was mostly allocated to pavement renewals (\$2.9m), drainage and environmental (\$2.4m) and depreciation (\$10m).
\$3 million on pavement rehabilitation of our roads	Actual spend on pavement rehabilitation was \$3.7m. Even though we had spent more than budgeted we only managed to complete 42,000m ² instead of the target of 60,000m ² due to increases in construction costs.
Road sealing and resurfacing \$2.7m	Actual spend on resurfacing was \$2.9m. Even though we had spent more than budgeted we only managed to complete 4.3% of the total network instead of the target of 6% due to increases in the cost of bitumen.
Ōpunakē water reservoir \$1.1m and Waverley water reservoir \$1.5m	Detailed designs are underway for the Ōpunakē water reservoir. Work on the Waverley water reservoir has slowed down due to the requirement to reclassify the land, which is a prerequisite for the resource consent application. Reclassification and consenting of the land are underway.
Undertake a digital transformation programme - (\$3.2m over five years)	Work has started on this project, initially the project was scheduled to start in November 2023, but it was delayed until April 2024. Up to \$945,000 is funded through Better Off Funding through the Department of Internal Affairs.

Ngā Manawareka me ngā Paearu Mahi

Other Highlights and Performance Measures

Te Pou Manukura | Democracy and Leadership

Performance Measure	Target	Achieved	Not Achieved
% of residents who agree decisions made by Council represent the best interests of the District.	≥70%	80%*	
% of residents who are satisfied/neutral with their opportunity to participate in Council decision-making processes.	≥80%		The Annual Residents' Survey recorded that 76% of respondents were satisfied with the opportunities provided to participate in Council decision-making processes.

Ngā Puna Wai | Water Supply Services

Performance Measure	Target	Achieved	Not Achieved
Total number of complaints received (per 1,000 connections) for DIA performance measures 4a – 4e (clarity/taste, odour, pressure/flow, supply and response).	≤20	10.75 complaints per 1,000 connections were received.	
Compliance with current NZ Drinking Water Standards (for protozoa).	10/10		(8/10) Pātea treatment consistently fails due to presence of ammonia, can't use chlorine because of hazardous by-products. We are trialling a biological treatment plant which is working well. The network zone partially demonstrated bacterial compliance although fails on chlorine residual disinfection. <i>Results are subject to independent external audit.</i>
% of consumers satisfied with the water supply overall.	≥80%	86%*	

Te wai āwhiwhio me ōna rītenga | Stormwater

Performance Measure	Target	Achieved	Not Achieved
Number of reported flooding incidents of habitable properties.	≤10	No incidents of flooding of habitable properties were reported.	
Number of abatement notices received by Council for stormwater discharges.	<2	No abatement notices were received.	
% of residents satisfied with the stormwater system.	≥80%	82%*	

Ngā Manawareka me ngā Paearu Mahi

Other Highlights and Performance Measures

Ngā parapara | Wastewater

Performance Measure	Target	Achieved	Not Achieved
Number of customer complaints per year relating to odours from wastewater pump stations or treatment facilities (per 1,000 connections).	≤1	0.25 complaints per 1,000 connections were received.	
Number of customer complaints per year about sewerage system faults (per 1,000 connections).	≤37	10.65 complaints per 1,000 connections were received.	
Number of complaints received about sewerage system faults and our response (per 1,000 connections). <i>DIA Performance Measures 4a-4d</i>	≤50	20.28 complaints per 1,000 connections were received.	
Number of dry weather sewerage overflows per 1,000 connections.	≤1	No dry weather overflows were reported.	
% of customers satisfied with the wastewater services overall.	≥85%	97%*	

Para Totoka | Solid Waste

Performance Measure	Target	Achieved	Not Achieved
% of customers satisfied with the solid waste collection service.	≥90%	90*	
Number of justified complaints received for missed street collection that are not resolved (average per month).	2	Average 0.17 complaints per month were received for missed collections that were not resolved.	
Number of tonnes of waste collected per household per annum.	<300kg per household		369 kg of waste per household was collected for the year, which reduced from 398kg the year prior.

Ngā Manawareka me ngā Paearu Mahi

Other Highlights and Performance Measures

Ngā Huarahi Ararau | Roading and Footpaths

Performance Measure	Target	Achieved	Not Achieved
% of roads meeting the roughness standard (deviation of true plane) remains stable or improves.	92%	The Annual Roughness Survey reported 93% for overall roughness. When separated, the result for urban streets is 87% and rural roads 97%.	
% of road users satisfied with the condition of Council roads.	≥74%		58%* of people surveyed were satisfied with the condition of Council roads. The main complaints are roads are full of potholes, not maintained well and repair work was not satisfactory. Some of the dissatisfaction can be attributed to the condition of State Highways, as per resident comments.
% of sealed local road network resurfaced annually.	6%		4.3% of the total sealed area was sealed. Some areas that were programmed for sealing were postponed due to the cost increase for bitumen being higher than projected.
% of footpaths with condition rating 1-4.	98%	99.6% of footpaths met the 1-4 Condition Rating.	
% of urgent customer service requests relating to roads and footpaths responded within 2 working days.	≥95%		93% 15 urgent customer service requests were reported with 14 responded within 2 working days.
% of non-urgent customer service requests relating to roads and footpaths responded within 5 working days.	≥90%	95% 2572 customer service requests were reported and 2453 were responded to within 5 days.	

Ngā Manawareka me ngā Paearu Mahi

Other Highlights and Performance Measures

Ngā Huahua Kaunihera | Community Facilities

Performance Measure	Target	Achieved	Not Achieved
% of customers satisfied with the level of maintenance in Council parks and reserves and public spaces.	97%		94%*
% of residents satisfied with cleanliness and maintenance of Public Toilets.	≥80%	82%*	
% of customers satisfied with the maintenance and cleanliness of recreation centres.	≥90%	93%*	
(C) % of visitors satisfied with the tidiness and level of maintenance at Cemeteries.	≥95%	95%	
% of users satisfied with the standard of service provided at the TSB Hub.	≥90%	User surveys recorded 100% satisfaction.	
% of users satisfied with the services provided at the Hāwera Aquatic Centre.	≥90%	91%*	
% of customers satisfied with pool environments. Average across all Rural Pools.	≥80%	94%*	
% of housing for elderly tenants satisfied with the standard of their accommodation.	≥ 95%	The annual tenants' survey showed 41/43 tenants (95.35%) satisfied with the standard of their accommodation.	

Ngā mahi ā-Toi me Rēhia | Arts and Culture

Performance Measure	Target	Achieved	Not Achieved
% of customers satisfied with LibraryPlus facilities and customer service.	≥96%	97%*	

Ngā Manawareka me ngā Paearu Mahi

Other Highlights and Performance Measures

Ōhanga-ā-Rohe | District Economy

Performance Measure	Target	Achieved	Not Achieved
Number of promotions about investing and doing business in South Taranaki per annum.	8	There were 12 promotions about investing and doing business in South Taranaki for the year.	
Minimum number of events provided or supported by Council per annum.	≥10	19 Council events were provided or supported.	
Number of unique visitors to the South Taranaki digital business hub per year.	12,000		There were 1179 visits to the digital business hub for the year.

Whakawhanake Hapori | Community Development

Performance Measure	Target	Achieved	Not Achieved
Number of community and Council projects and activities provided, encouraged and supported.	≥25	42 projects and activities were supported. Focus has been on engagement with Town Revitalisation co-design groups in Eltham, Ōpunakē, Pātea and Waverley.	

Taiao me te Toitū | Environment and Sustainability

Performance Measure	Target	Achieved	Not Achieved
No unapproved loss of indigenous vegetation across the District.	0% loss	No incidents of illegal vegetation clearance reported.	

Ngā Manawareka me ngā Paearu Mahi

Other Highlights and Performance Measures

Ratonga Wakaature | Regulatory Services

Performance Measure	Target	Achieved	Not Achieved
% of (liquor) licensed premises that are inspected annually.	≥95%	100%	
% of new and renewed (food) premises applications processed within 10 working days	≥95%	99%	
% of noise complaints are responded to within one hour.	≥90%	96%	
% of resource consent applications are processed within statutory timeframes.	100%		97% (139 out of 142)
Accreditation as a Building Consent Authority is retained.	Accredited	Achieved - IANZ audit was completed in June 2023	
% of building consent applications processed within the statutory timeframe of 20 working days.	100%		73.8% (368 out of 499)
% of building inspections carried out within 2 working days of request.	95%	97%	
% of reported serious dog or wandering stock incidents responded to within 4 hours.	≥95%	95%	
% of reported general dog incidents responded to within 1 working day.	≥95%		90% (652 out of 725)
% of residents satisfied with the Animal Control service.	≥75%		74%*

Financial Overview

The following pages provide an overview of the Council's financial performance for the year 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024.

Net surplus/(deficit)
\$2.4 million

Total Assets
\$1,471 million

Total Liabilities
\$169 million

Total Equity
\$1,302 million

Statement of Financial Performance

The Council finished the year with a \$2.4m surplus after unbudgeted adjustments (loss on derivative contracts \$713,000 and disposal of assets \$1,210,000) against a budgeted surplus of \$652,000. The main contributors to the variance are as follows:

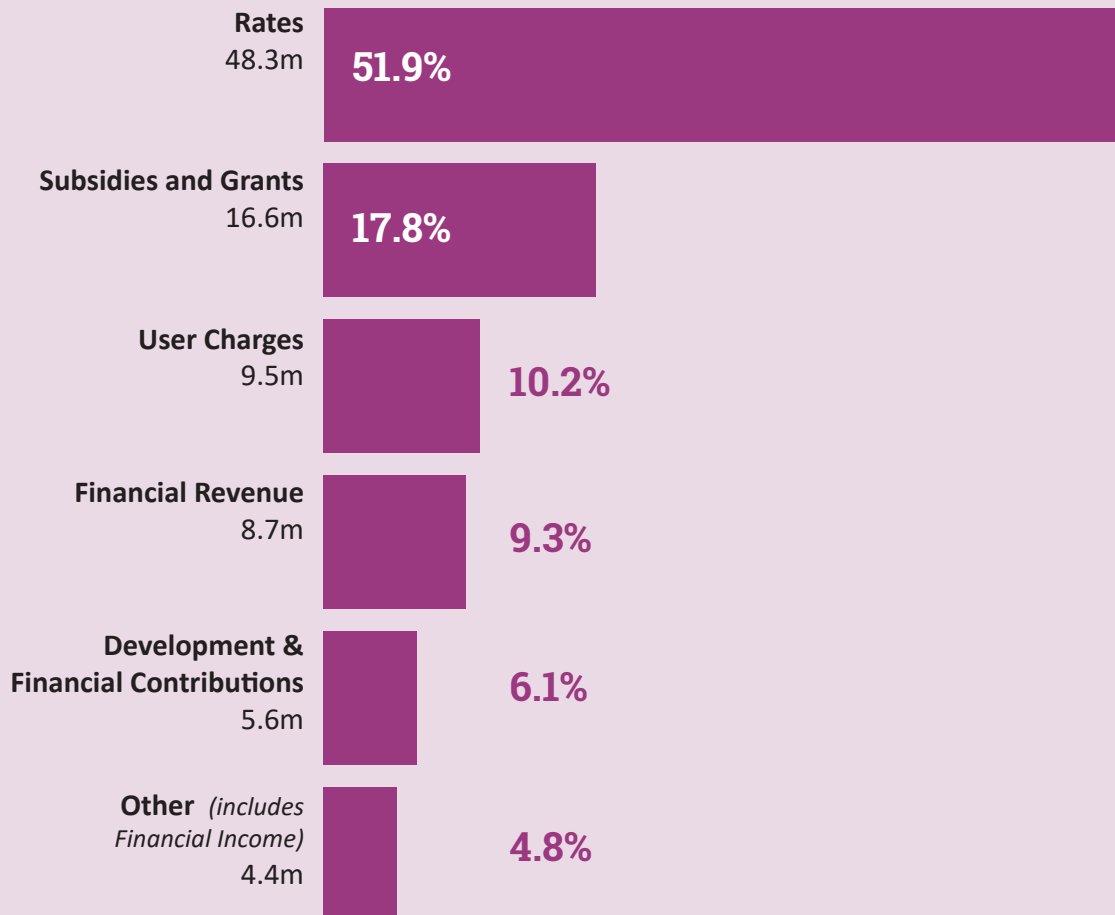
Revenue

Total revenue was \$2.7m over budget. Subsidies and grants were higher than budget by \$0.8m mainly due to additional subsidy being available from Waka Kotahi/NZ Transport Agency. Revenue from The Long Term Investment Fund (LTIF) was lower than expected, (by \$2.6m) due to weaker market conditions and continuing geo-political uncertainty. Development and financial contributions were higher than budgeted by \$3.3m due to higher than anticipated revenue recognition relating to the South Taranaki Business Park. Other revenue was higher than budgeted by \$1.9m primarily due to unbudgeted assets vested to the Council.

Expenditure

Total expenditure was \$1m over budget. The main contributors were an increase in Council's personnel costs \$0.5m, and an unbudgeted loss on derivatives of \$0.7m, offset by slightly lower than budgeted depreciation costs.

Operating Revenue - \$93.1m



Statement of Financial Position

Net assets as at 30 June 2024

	Actual 2023/24	Budget 2023/24	Actual 2022/23
Total assets	\$1,471 million	\$1,463 million	\$1,438 million
Less total liabilities	\$169 million	\$161 million	\$139 million
Net assets	\$1,302 million	\$1,302 million	\$1,299 million

Long Term Investment Fund (LTIF)

The value of the LTIF at 30 June 2024 decreased to \$143.20m (from \$144.84m in 2023), which included internal borrowing of \$12.89m (\$14.2m in 2023) after allowing for the withdrawal of the annual rates subsidy. The balance of the LTIF decreased mainly because of weaker market conditions compared to last year. The market conditions continue to be volatile due to inflationary pressures, high interest rates and on-going wars in the Middle East and between Russia and Ukraine.

Term Debt

The Council's total borrowing increased from \$136.14m (in 2023) to \$162.9m. This included pre-funding of \$10m and \$12.89m of internal borrowing (\$14.24m in 2023).

External Funds

The budgeted return was \$12.06m (\$0.83m of interest revenue from internal borrowings) but the LTIF received a positive return of \$9.02 million (\$0.83m of interest revenue from internal borrowings) in the 2023/24 year. During the year the Council withdrew \$8.0m for the annual rates subsidy and received \$1.34m for internal loan repayments and \$0.83m for the interest on internal loans.

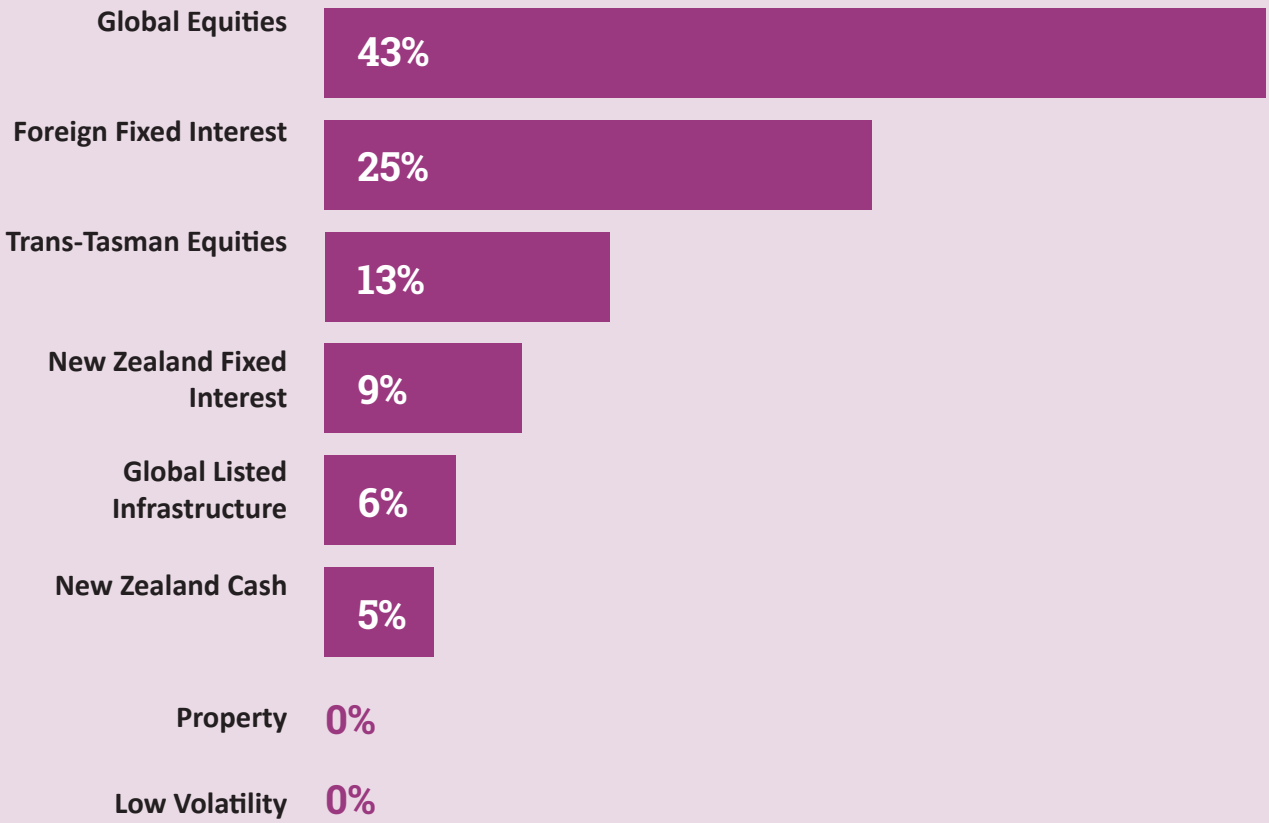
Financial Prudence Benchmarks

The Council is required to include Financial Prudence Benchmarks in its Annual Report in accordance with the Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014. The key benchmarks for 2023/24 are summarised below:

Key 2023/24 Benchmarks

	Benchmark	Achieved
Rates (Increase) Affordability	<4.75%	No 7.19%
Debt Affordability	Net interest expense as a percentage of total annual income (<15%)	Yes 7%
Debt Affordability	Net debt per capita is less than \$2,000 per person	Yes (\$0.34)
Balanced Budget	Revenue equals or is greater than its operating expenses (=>100%)	No 96.19%
Debt Servicing	Borrowing costs equal or are less than 10% of its revenue (=<10%)	Yes 8.07%

Fund Analysis

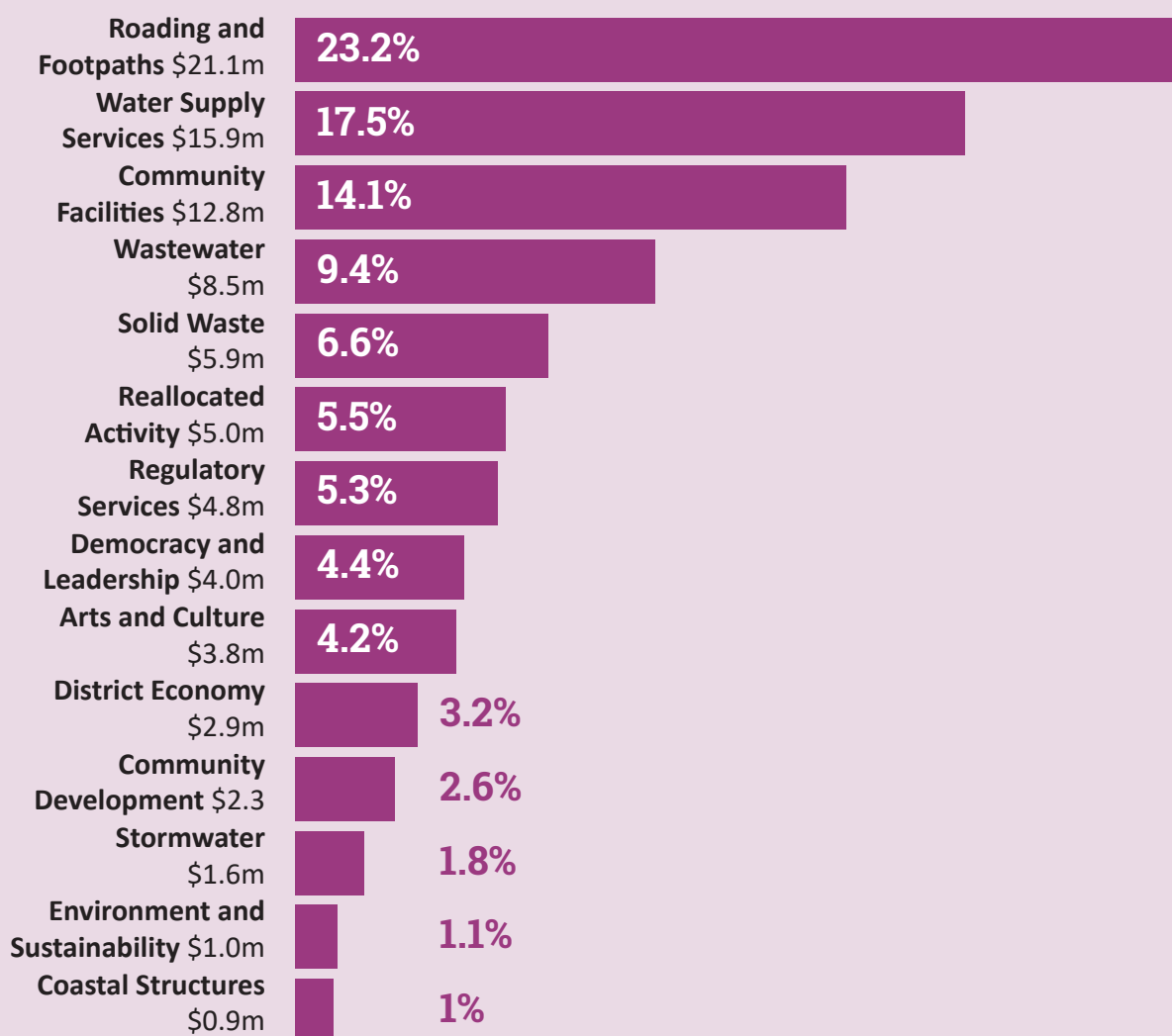


Āhuatanga Pūtea me ngā Nekehanga Moni

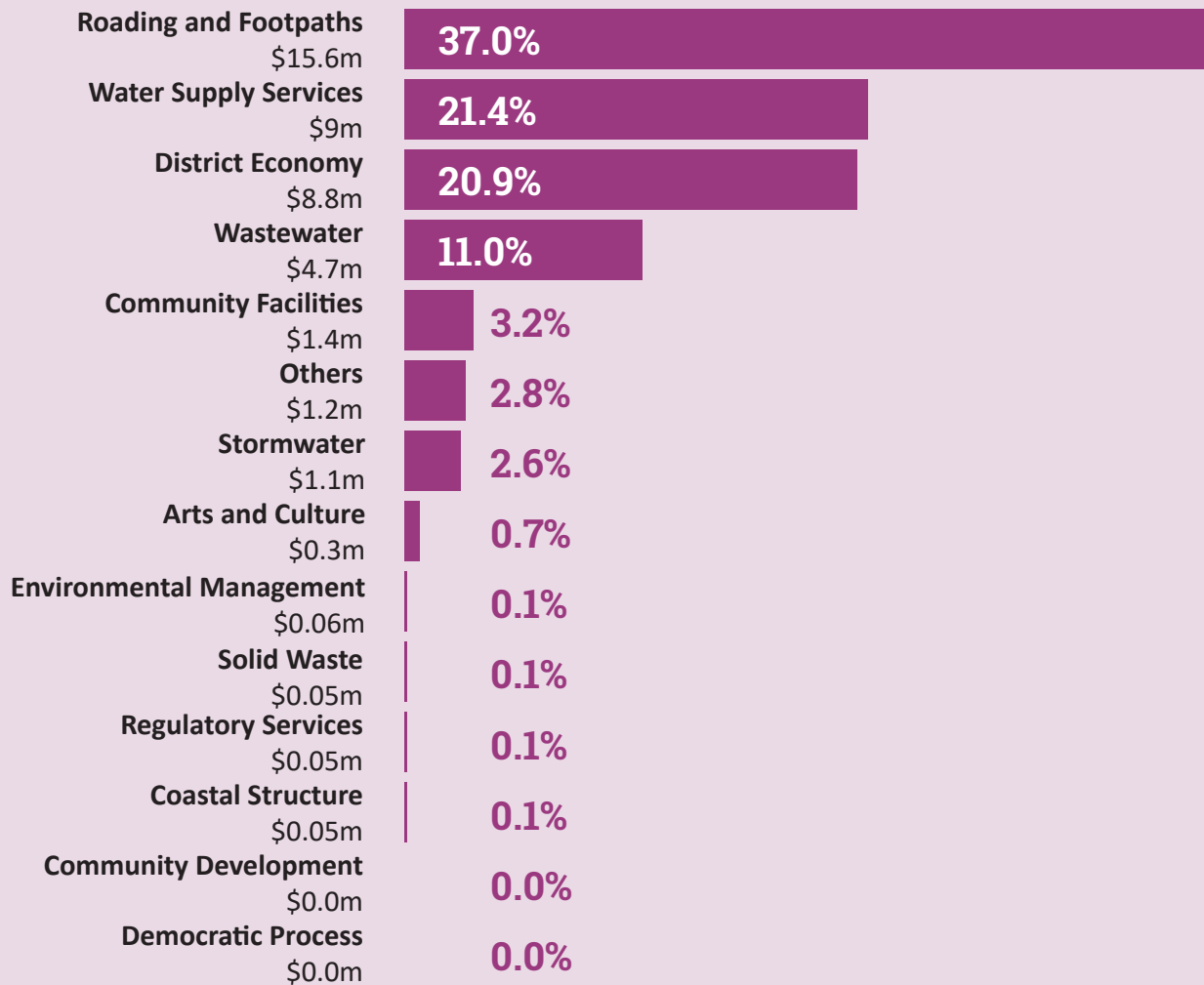
Financial Performance and Movements in Equity

(\$ million)	Actual 2023/24	Budget 2023/24	Actual 2022/23
Operating revenue	\$93.07 million	\$90.38 million	\$87.26 million
Operating expenditure	\$90.71 million	\$89.73 million	\$88.03 million
Net operating surplus/(deficit)	\$2.36 million	\$0.65 million	\$0.77 million
Net increase/(decrease) in value of assets	\$31.75 million	\$318.1 million	\$10.84 million
Total Movements in Equity	\$2.46 million	\$0.65 million	(\$0.43) million

Operating Expenditure - \$90.7m



Capital Expenditure - \$42.3m



Āhuatanga Pūtea me ngā Nekehanga Moni

Financial Performance and Movements in Equity

Summary Statement of Financial Position

	Council Actual 2023/24 (\$000)	Council Budget 2023/24 (\$,000)	Consolidation Actual 2023/24 (\$000)	Council Actual 2022/23 (\$000)	Consolidation Actual 2022/23 (\$000)
Current assets	131,208	117,058	131,208	117,616	117,616
Non-current assets	1,339,396	1,346,187	1,339,396	1,321,236	1,321,236
Total Assets	1,470,604	1,463,245	1,470,604	1,438,852	1,438,852
Current liabilities	41,784	28,533	41,784	35,389	35,389
Non-current liabilities	127,254	132,670	127,254	104,357	104,357
Total Liabilities	169,039	161,203	169,039	139,746	139,746
Total Equity/Net Assets	1,301,565	1,302,042	1,301,565	1,299,108	1,299,108

Summary Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expenses

	Council Actual 2023/24 (\$000)	Council Budget 2023/24 (\$,000)	Consolidation Actual 2023/24 (\$000)	Council Actual 2022/23 (\$000)	Consolidation Actual 2022/23 (\$000)
Total Revenue	93,068	90,378	93,068	87,264	87,264
Total Expenses (including finance cost)	90,712	89,726	90,712	88,032	88,032
Total operating surplus/(deficit) before tax	2,356	652	2,356	(768)	(768)
Other comprehensive revenue and expenditure					
Increase/(decrease) in revaluation reserves	101	0	101	342	342
Gain on asset revaluation	0	0	0	0	0
Total other comprehensive revenue and expenditure	101	0	101	342	342
Total comprehensive revenue and expenditure for the year	2,457	652	2,457	(426)	(426)

Summary Statement of Changes in Equity

	Council Actual 2023/24 (\$000)	Council Budget 2023/24 (\$,000)	Consolidation Actual 2023/24 (\$000)	Council Actual 2022/23 (\$000)	Consolidation Actual 2022/23 (\$000)
Equity at the beginning of the year	1,299,108	1,301,390	1,299,108	1,299,534	1,299,534
Net surplus/(deficit) for the year	2,356	652	2,356	(768)	(768)
Other comprehensive income/(loss)	0	0	0	0	0
Adjustment to investment revaluation reserve	101	0	101	342	342
Total comprehensive income including adjustment for the year	2,457	652	2,457	(426)	(426)
Equity at the end of the year	1,301,565	1,302,042	1,301,565	1,299,108	1,299,108
Comprising:					
Accumulated Balances	488,054	491,792	488,054	486,813	486,813
Restricted and statutory reserves	4,121	4,103	4,121	3,782	3,782
Investment revaluation reserves	444	0	444	343	343
Separate Operating Reserves	9,248	2,824	9,248	6,463	6,463
Council Created Reserves	144,771	147,327	144,771	146,498	146,498
Capital Replacement Reserves	252	1,321	252	534	534
Asset revaluation reserves	654,675	654,675	654,675	654,675	654,675
Equity at the end of the year	1,301,565	1,302,042	1,301,565	1,299,108	1,299,108

Summary Statement of Cashflows

	Council Actual 2023/24 (\$000)	Council Budget 2023/24 (\$,000)	Consolidation Actual 2023/24 (\$000)	Council Actual 2022/23 (\$000)	Consolidation Actual 2022/23 (\$000)
Net cashflows from operating activities	20,751	18,306	20,751	17,915	17,915
Net cashflows from investing activities	(40,143)	(42,423)	(40,143)	(32,720)	(32,720)
Net cashflows from financing activities	28,037	19,242	18,037	8,425	8,425
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	8,645	(4,875)	8,645	(6,381)	(6,381)

Three Waters

Three Waters Reform

Over recent years there has been a lot of activity around how our three waters services (our water, wastewater and stormwater) are delivered. This was driven by the previous Labour Government who sought to move the ownership and running of three waters services from local councils to new multi-regional water entities. The goals were to improve water quality and to reduce costs by operating at a larger scale. This would have seen South Taranaki being made to become part of a Taranaki entity. However, the change to a new National led Government in November 2023 has seen the law to set up these water entities withdrawn and the ownership and control of three waters services given back to local councils.

The previous water services legislation (namely the Water Services Entities Act 2022, the Water Services Legislation Act 2023 and the Water Services Economic Efficiency and Consumer Protection Act 2023), was repealed on 17 February 2024, and replaced under the banner of “Local Water Done Well” water reforms due to be implemented in two further stages:

- the Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Act 2024 (made law on 2 September 2024); and
- Further legislative change (expected to be introduced in December 2024, to be passed by mid-2025).

The new Act means councils must submit Water Services Delivery Plans (WSDP) to the Secretary of Local Government, by 3 September 2025 identifying the current state of the council’s water services, and showing how the council will deliver water services in a financially sustainable way.

The legislation also requires that councils are to:

- Consider a minimum of two options – for example status quo and forming a Council Controlled Organisation
- Consult with their community on the options.

The Council is currently working through the options and will consult with the community in 2025.

Pūrongo Kaitātari Kaute Motuhake

Independent Auditor's Report

To The Readers Of South Taranaki District Council's Summary Of The Annual Report For The Year Ended 30 June 2024.

The summary of the annual report was derived from the annual report of the South Taranaki District Council (the District Council) for the year ended 30 June 2024.

The summary of the annual report comprises the following information on pages 14 to 19 and 26 to 28:

- the summary statement of financial position as at 30 June 2024;
- the summaries of the statement of comprehensive revenue and expenses, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year ended 30 June 2024;
- the notes to the summary financial statements that include accounting policies and other explanatory information; and
- the summary performance of services activities.

Opinion

In our opinion:

- the summary of the annual report represents, fairly and consistently, the information regarding the major matters dealt with in the annual report; and
- the summary statements comply with *PBE FRS-43: Summary Financial Statements*.

However, the summary performance of service activities information includes a limitation in scope to the equivalent extent as the full audited non-financial performance information. This limitation is explained below in the full annual report and our audit report thereon section.

Summary of the Annual Report

The summary of the annual report does not contain all the disclosures required by generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand. Reading the summary of the annual report and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the full annual report and the auditor's report thereon. The summary of the annual report does not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our auditor's report on the full annual report.

The full Annual Report and our Audit Report thereon

We expressed a qualified opinion on the activity statements and an unmodified audit opinion on the other audited information in the full annual report for the year ended 30 June 2024 in our auditor's report dated 30 October 2024. The basis for our qualified opinion on the activity statements is explained below. The District Council is required to report in its full annual report against the performance measures set out in the Non-Financial Performance Measure Rules 2013 (the Rules) made by the Secretary for Local Government. We identified significant issues with some of these performance measures as described below. As a result of these issues, our work was limited and there were no practicable audit procedures we could apply to obtain assurance over the reported results for these performance measures for the current year and the 2020/21 baseline performance.

Total number of complaints received – Water supply and Wastewater

The District Council is required to report against the performance measures set out in the Non-Financial Performance Measure Rules 2013 (the Rules) made by the Secretary for Local Government. These mandatory performance measures include the number of complaints (per 1,000 properties connected) received about the following:

- drinking water clarity, taste, odour, pressure or flow, continuity of supply, and the District Council's response to any of these issues; and
- sewage odour, sewerage system faults and blockages, and the District Council's response to issues with the sewerage system.

These measures are important because the number of complaints is indicative of the quality of services received by ratepayers.

The Department of Internal Affairs has issued guidance to assist local authorities in applying the Rules, including on how to count complaints. Our audit testing found that the District Council has not been counting after-hours complaints in accordance with this guidance and that the District Council's method of counting was likely to have understated the actual number of complaints received in the current year and in the comparative year to 30 June 2023.

Independent Auditor's Report

Complete records for all after-hour complaints made to the District Council were not available and we were unable to determine whether the District Council's reported results for these performance measures were materially correct.

As a result, our work was limited and there were no practicable audit procedures we could apply to obtain assurance over the number of complaints reported against these performance measures.

Council's responsibility for the summary of the annual report

The Council is responsible for preparing the summary of the annual report which includes preparing summary statements, in accordance with PBE FRS-43: Summary Financial Statements.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summary of the annual report represents, fairly and consistently, the information regarding the major matters dealt with in the full annual report and whether the summary statements comply with PBE FRS 43: Summary Financial Statements.

Our opinion on the summary of the annual report is based on our procedures, which were carried out in accordance with the independence requirements of the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the independence requirements of

Professional and Ethical Standard 1: International Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners (including International Independence Standards) (New Zealand) (PES 1) issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.

In addition to our audit and our report on the disclosure requirements, we have carried out an assurance engagement on trustee reporting, which is compatible with those independence requirements. Other than this engagement we have no relationship with or interests in the District Council.



Bennie Greyling
for Deloitte Limited
On behalf of the Auditor-General
Auckland, New Zealand
29 November 2024

How we prepared these statements

This summary report has been taken from the South Taranaki District Council 2023/24 Annual Report. The Annual Report, adopted on 30 October 2024, has been prepared in accordance with Tier 1 PBE Standards and contains detailed information about our finances and service provision. Deloitte Limited has issued a qualified opinion on the activity statements and an unmodified opinion on the other audited information in the full Annual Report.

This Summary has been prepared in compliance with PBE FRS-43 and examined by Deloitte Limited for consistency with the full Annual Report.

South Taranaki District Council is a public benefit entity for financial reporting purposes. The financial statements within the Annual Report have been prepared in accordance with New Zealand Generally Accepted Accounting Practices (NZ GAAP) and comply with PBE Standards. The financial statements include a Statement of Compliance to this effect. The financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars and all values are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars.

This summary Annual Report was authorised by the Chief Executive Officer of the South Taranaki District Council on 29 November 2024.



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